# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:402
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2007
SOCIAL SECURITY FOR UNEMPLOYED PERSONS
Deshmukh Shri Subhash Sureshchandra

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government has taken or proposes to take any step to provide social security to the unemployed persons in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to cover all those who could not be provided employment within a specific period of time; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNENDCES)

(a) to (d) : The National Rural Employment Guarantee NREG Act, 2005 provides for the enhancement of livelihood security of the households in rural areas of the country by providing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Thus, NREG Act makes the Government legally accountable for providing employment to those who ask for it and thereby goes beyond providing a social safety net towards guaranteeing the Right to Employment. However, if a worker who has applied for work under NREG Act is not provided employment within 15 days from the date on which work is requested, an unemployment allowance shall be payable by the State Government at the rate prescribed in the Act. It was implemented in 200 identified districts in the country in its first phase with effect from 2.2.06 and has been extended to 130 more districts in the second phase with effect from 1.4.2007. However, the Government has now decided to extend the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act to the rural areas of all the remaining districts in the conuntry including the Union Territories with effect from 1.4.2008.